## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-OP-S PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MS03-02414-M 22 August 2003

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

PROPOSED MARINA ON THE ESCATAWPA RIVER, SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 7
SOUTH, RANGE 6 WEST, MOSS POINT, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Schooner Harbor

Attention: Mr. Barry M. Brown

Post Office Box 1523

Pascagoula, Mississippi 39568

WATERWAY: On the Escatawpa River, Moss Point, Jackson County, Mississippi.

WORK: The applicant is requesting a permit to construct a 120-slip floating marina in downtown Moss Point along the newly constructed boardwalk. The applicant proposes to construct a floating dock and pier system designed to moor boats ranging between 30 and 70 feet in length. No dredging is proposed and no marsh or wetlands will be impacted by this project. The land-based portion of the proposed marina consists of a marina office, store, laundry and restrooms located on vacant lots between the existing city hall and recreation center. In-ground fuel tanks are proposed to be installed on this property with piping to the floating fuel dock near the existing boat launch. The proposed pump-out facility will be located on the fuel dock and will utilize the city sewage system. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a public marina with 120 boatslips and was initiated as an economic development effort as a part of Moss Point's Waterfront Master Plan.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. A determination relative to consistency will be made by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

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Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. This review constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of Archeological Services.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates that the proposed activity will not affect listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat.

The Mobile District has determined that the proposed action would not adversely impact Essential Fish Habitat or associated fisheries managed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number MS03-02414-M and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Branch, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi 39109, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received not later than 22 September 2003.

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If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact this office, Ms. Linda Brown, telephone number (251) 694-3786. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures





